

Saturday Gazette.

Hoomfield and Montclair, N. J.

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CHAS. W. DAVIS, Contributing Editor.PUBLICATION OFFICE is next door to
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sideration.

TOWN AFFAIRS.

No. I.

It would seem a very proper time now, when all kinds of secular business are measurably at a stand still, for citizens to give some thought and attention to interests of the town.

Is it not here that we are to look for the first manifestations of true patriotism? And if it be not found here what signify the loud prattlings of politicians about our glorious country, our free institutions, our liberal principles, and our noble ancestry? Are not the State governments and the national government the result and consequence of the offsprings and product of the town development? What a right minded parent would wish his child to be endeavoring to illustrate in his own example and commend to the admiration and affection of his child by his own spirit and approval. So, that which good and intelligent citizens desire the State and the Nation to become, they should seek to exemplify in their town and excite admiration for by exhibiting at home as perfect a model as possible. Our future statesmen are developed and trained first in the township. The elements of political knowledge are to be taught here. And the very first, the underlying principles of all, are reverence for authority, submission to law, respect for the opinions and rights of others.

Our youth of both sexes should be faithfully disciplined by parents and teachers on these great and fundamental principles of government. But even this is not enough; for a growing indifference and neglect of this early training for years past give us now an adult population largely selfish, egotistical and partisan; chiefly intent on gain, testing merit not by mental or moral worth but by the bonds and stocks in safe, the unincumbered real estate on record, and the credit balance in Bank. Therefore not only should wise and patriotic instruction be inculcated in our youth but it is requisite that we ourselves should assiduously cherish and zealously practice the sentiments we desire them to learn. They will never know to respect authority if parents are lax in requiring it, or themselves reckless in "speaking evil of dignities."

We throw out these hints in this place because, if we expect ever to see our nation and our State treading again the paths of political wisdom and virtue, restraining vice, punishing crime, shrinking from corruption, we must begin the reform in our towns. Of the kind and character of men we need for the various town offices it will be necessary for us soon to inquire. We shall treat of that in another paper, a week or two hence, and would respectfully invite communications on the subject from observing, thoughtful, interested citizens. It is a matter of the deepest concern to our towns, for the sake of their credit, their example, and their interests.

Meanwhile it is important for us to consider what our real condition is. However much some of us may regret the change, it is evident that we are not the contented, passive, rural people who formerly dwelt here, pursuing the even tenor of their way, undisturbed by excitement from the world of activity and strife beyond. The metropolitan human tides have flowed in upon our valleys and hillsides, bringing their living freights of intelligence, enterprise, activity and refinement to multiply our population, build up our villages and establish thickly here the many happy, attractive homes which give celebrity to Bloomfield and Montclair.

Their rapid growth, and increasing density necessitate many wants and conveniences that were not requisite before. Sanitary measures are now demanded that can not be long neglected with impunity. Personal protection and social facilities and comforts are desiderata of the first magnitude. It is true we have made considerable progress in these respects, but it is our privilege as taxpayers and voting citizens to inquire what powers we have to secure protection and enforce advantageous and indispensable improvements. It is proper that we should know what additional legislation may be needed for our towns and that we take prompt measures to secure it. It is also our duty to consider what our town officers have been doing for us during the year, and if we find they have been diligent, devoted and wise, to give them the commendation due to their fidelity. But if we find that they have evinced incapacity for the high trust we have devolved upon them, judged on the infallible test of *fruits*, then we shall be advised in time to employ others who will take broader and more adequate views of our town interests. We cannot afford to let year after year go by with important measures lagging or laid over without necessity or sufficient reason.

THE GAZETTE—OUR PLAN.

Our Journal went to our readers last week in the enlarged form which we have adopted, being an increase in size of nearly three columns, which will enable us to give a larger amount of valuable and varied reading.

We have made arrangements for a *New Department* with the caption—"THE RELIGIOUS WEEKLY." Under this head, we propose regularly to give a weekly resume of the editorial thought and discussions on whatever subjects our principal religious journals, mainly those of the Metropolis, though we shall not hesitate

from time to time to include also such from other populous centres as are conducted with ability and are entitled to be considered of a representative character.

By this means our readers will get the drift of public opinion on important subjects from different stand-points.

Another *New Department* has the caption—"POLITICAL INFORMATION," under which, last week we gave a chapter on "Town Meetings" by Nordhoff, and in this issue we give another, on "The Inalienable Rights of American Citizens" by the same able writer.

Our Educational column is growing in importance and increasing in interest. Every teacher and every considerate parent will read this department with avidity and advantage.

Either of these departments ought to be considered worth the subscription price of the GAZETTE to any reader, in whatever locality, as they are of general application and value.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE from abroad will as hitherto be fresh, original and interesting. The letter from St. Petersburg, in this issue, is sprightly and zestful.

Our CONTRIBUTIONS include a very interesting letter on the distinguished Universalist Clergyman, Rev. Dr. Chapin. Also a suggestive article on *Names*. Others of interest, including a description of a visit to our new County Prison, are deferred until next week.

May we not hope that our friends will commend our efforts and our paper to many who will be happy to encourage us by adding their names to our subscription list.

Those who have ordered last year's volume of the GAZETTE bound for them are informed that they will be finished about the middle of the month.

Any others who wish to secure a bound copy can do so by sending in their orders at once. The price will be \$3. bound or if they have a full file of the papers for last year, by returning them, the cost of the bound copy will be only \$2.

HOME MATTERS.

WEATHER CHRONICLE.

Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre.

Jan.	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
At 7 A.M.	50	42	25	21	26	25	30
At Noon	120	20	31	33	34	29	22
At 9 P.M.	11	18	33	27	32	28	23

BLOOMFIELD.

NOTICE.—There will be a Parish Meeting of the old Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield, on Wednesday evening next, at a quarter before 8 o'clock, for election of seven trustees, in place of the present incumbents, whose term of office then expires.

WEEK OF PRAYER.—Services have been held every evening during this week in the different churches in both our villages. On Saturday (this evening) there will be a union service in the Westminster Church, Bloomfield, in which all the churches are expected to participate.

ECCLIAN SOCIETY.—The regular monthly meeting of this Society will be held on Monday evening, January 11th, at their rooms. The following interesting programme is presented to the public, who are cordially invited to be present.

Reading—Selections from Richard III., by W. D. Foote.
Lecture—A battle and its consequences, Hon. John Whitehead.

Exercises to begin promptly at 8 o'clock.

PARTY.—A large and select party of "strangers for the time," gathered by invitation at a well known residence on Ridge-wood heights north of Montclair railway, on Tuesday evening, where they had, as we learn, a very interesting interchange of courtesies till the arrival of hours which are expressed by single digits, when they suddenly became known to one another, and each found himself in the midst of friends, with the generous and thoughtful host, the friend of all.

The Anniversary exercises of the Westminster Sabbath School Missionary Association will be held at the Chapel, on Sunday the 10th inst, with services as follows:

In the morning at 10:30 o'clock, a sermon to the Sabbath school.

Afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, the anniversary exercises will be held, consisting of the reports of the officers, a concert exercise on "Praise ye the Lord," and an address by Mr. F. H. Wiswell.

In the evening at 7 o'clock, a Missionary meeting will be held, at which addresses will be delivered by Dr. I. Wayne Snow, in the missionary representative of this school and others. Missionary collection.

All are cordially invited to be present at either or all of these services.

CHURCH NOTICE.—Rev. A. L. Brice, Presiding Elder of Newark district, will preach on Sunday evening in the Methodist church, Bloomfield.

PILLS AND PROVIDER.—Observing Dr. W. the other day on his return from the city as he was leaving the ferry-boat with a turkey in one hand and a brace of chickens in the other, we could but think that possibly his prescriptions would be more grateful were he to order provender instead of pills to his patients. "Ah," said another passenger, addressing the Doctor, "What kind of medicine is that?" "That is a good tonic," replied the M. D., "it is to give strength and build-up." "Oh, yes," it was responded, "you take the medicine that is palatable."—"And gustatory," added a third one, and we patients must be content with the pill. We all had a good laugh, which Solomon says "doeth good like a medicine"—perhaps he meant that of the provender sort.

IMPROVEMENT.—In speaking of the renovation of the Presbyterian Church last week, we erroneously gave the trustees credit for the taste displayed in the decoration, etc. We have since been informed that a committee of twelve, appointed at a parish meeting, the "better half," as always, being ladies, had charge of the ornamentation, painting and furnishing. It is our pleasure to make this *amende honorable* and to say that, like all things of intrinsic beauty, the decoration of the church improves and grows upon one every time it is seen. With some slight modifications, as the painting of a window

behind the pulpit, and the substitution of some graceful lines in place of the tattoo spots about the windows and borders, we shall have an exhibition of correct and refining taste of which not only the church but the town may feel a rational pride. Then the committee of twelve will receive their meed of honor.

We hope it will occur to the trustees that the Sunday school boxes in the gallery would be greatly improved in appearance by removing the knobs from the top of the newel posts, which, though intended by the mechanic for ornament, are manifestly out of taste and out of place there, and an obstruction to the view of the pulpit.

The stained glass windows are artistic and beautiful and the coloring in front of the gallery is in exquisite taste.

When the whole is entirely completed, we think it will compare creditably with any similar improvement in Essex County.

INSTALLATION SERVICE.

On Wednesday evening the Rev. HENRY W. BALLANTINE, was duly installed 9th, Pastor of "The Presbyterian Society" of Bloomfield. His predecessors in order from the beginning were—

1st. Rev. Abel Jackson	1800—10 years
2nd. Rev. C. Gildersleeve	1812—6 "
3rd. Rev. G. N. Judd	1820—14 "
4th. Rev. E. Seymour	1824—13 "
5th. Rev. G. Duffield Jr.	1847—4 "
6th. Rev. J. M. Sherwood	1852—6 "
7th. Rev. E. J. Newlin	1858—5 "
8th. Rev. C. E. Knox	1864—10 "

The Rev. Henry W. Ballantine was called on the 16th of June last and entered upon the pastorate on the 5th of July. The repairs of the church which were commenced soon after have caused the postponement of the formal and official induction ceremonies.

The time for which many hearts had been waiting at length arrived. The church was renovated, painted and furnished and appeared fresh and cheery. Notice had been published in all the pulpits and the programme arranged for Wednesday evening.

The pulpit was beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens, conspicuously displaying against the wall behind, the emblematic cross stars and circles, all made of Christmas greens and the significant letters I. H. S. beneath.

The large church was well filled. The appointments of the Presbytery were all present to take part in the services as below, except Rev. E. Mix of Orange, who was detained by sickness in his family, and whose duty was ably performed by Rev. Dr. Berry in addition to that which had been assigned to him.

Rev. Duncan Kennedy D. D. to preside and to propound the covenant question to the pastor elect and to the congregation.

Rev. D. B. Coe, D. D. to make the opening prayer.

Rev. J. R. Berry, D. D. to offer the installation prayer.

Rev. N. Mix to preach the Sermon.

Rev. Chas. E. Knox, D. D. to deliver the charge to the people.

The services were exceedingly interesting. The Sermon of Dr. Berry was admirable in conception and clear and forcible in delivery. The charge of Dr. Knox to the pastor was comprehensive, scholarly, authoritative and pious, well befitting the high character of Dr. Knox for learning and experience as a pastor, an author, and President of a theological Seminary. Dr. Fawcett's charge to the congregation, though quite brief, was altogether appropriate and impressive.

All the exercises were listened to with deepest interest by an appreciative audience.

Thus the esteemed pastor, who had already installed himself in the hearts of his congregation, was officially installed over the church according to the admirable order of the constitution of the Presbyterian church.

MONTCLAIR.

Town Council—Montclair.

Regular meeting Wednesday, 6th. Jan.

The subject of widening Fullerton avenue south of Bloomfield avenue, which had been passed upon at a former meeting, was, on motion for reconsideration again brought before the council. An animated discussion followed which had the effect to convince the council that the report and recommendation of the commissioners which had been affirmed by their former action, were not satisfactory to the majority of owners on that avenue, nor probably for the best interests of all concerned. Therefore, it resolved to revoke the affirmation of the council and leave the subject open for further action of the council hereafter.

The report of assessments for working and grading Irving street from Lincoln street to Orange road was confirmed.

Monthly bills were presented and acted upon with the usual scrutiny and care.

Rev. G. W. SMITH, pastor of the Methodist church in this village received an "ab-sent-leave" ticket from his church, with continuance of salary, and left on Friday for a winter trip to Florida; where he trusts to get rid of bronchial troubles that have of late impaired his professional efficiency.

He hopes and expects to return by 1st. of April. Meanwhile we understand his pulpit will be filled for a few weeks at least, by the Rev. John Crawford of Madison. Mr. Crawford preached last Sunday with much satisfaction to the congregation.

In the Congregational church on Tuesday evening next at 8 o'clock there will be an election of two trustees in place of the present incumbents whose term of office then expires.

NEW BUILDINGS.—There are, we understand, no less than twenty-seven dwellings in process of erection in Montclair. They are all of a good class and some of them will be large and costly. There is a general impression that residences will be in great demand in the Spring in this most

attractive suburb of New York. It is thought that a hundred houses with a lot, say, 50x150 feet, worth \$5,000 to \$8,000, and to be ready by first of May or June would find ready takers. Those who are providing them for sale or to rent would do well to advertise them in the GAZETTE. Each advertiser of real estate here will be furnished with a stipulated number of copies of each issue during continuance of the advertisement, for sending away. It would be a most advantageous way to present the eligibility of the property and of the location, to known inquirers.

The mother of "Grace Greenwood" died in Michigan, Dec. 21, at the advanced age of ninety-four years. She was a gifted, influential and beautiful woman. M. M.

The Bay Ridge burglary was not as safe as the one at Washington. F.

The following communication should have appeared last week, but failed to reach us in time, through the neglect of the messenger entrusted with its delivery.

MONTCLAIR RAILWAY—TRAIN 7-87 A. M. To the Editor of the Gazette:

DEAR SIR—Yourself and the readers of the GAZETTE may be interested to know that the commuters and others traveling on the Montclair Railway train of which Mr. Watkins is conductor, made up, on the 24th ult., a pile of \$35, for distribution among the hands on that train, as a Christmas remembrance, in appreciation of the courtesy and efficiency with which they have performed their several duties. The presentation was made on the train at Arlington, in a short, pleasant speech, by Mr. Gilbert, of Singlet, who expressed the desire of those traveling on that train, to evidence in this way their recognition of the efforts made by the employees to perform their several duties courteously. Mr. Watkins responded by acknowledging the motives which prompted the gift, thanking those from whom it came, and promising renewed exertions on behalf of himself and his fellow employees. Three checks were then given with a will, for the Montclair and generally, the other trains followed this example and made up several piles.

By the way, this train, which leaves Montclair at 7:47 A. M. is now making New York in 45 minutes from that station and in 40 from Bloomfield, which affords a very pleasant contrast to the Rip-Van-Winkle's of the D. L. & W. Stage line. Converts from the latter are being continually received by the Montclair Railway, and it is still an unbroken record, why any commuter should patronize a company like the D. L. & W. which has always ignored his rights and comfort, and which still subjects him to the annoyances of a smoky tunnel, long ferry and slow time, when he can be landed in New York by the Montclair in less time by an average of 15 minutes a trip, along a far pleasanter route and at the same expense.

For men who only care to reach the city in time to catch trains, the afternoon train home, the Morris & Essex may perhaps be well enough—business men, however, prefer to travel by the Montclair Railway.

Yours, etc. X.

ST. PETERSBURG.

Correspondence of the Saturday Gazette.

A PLEASURE HUNT IN RUSSIA.

A few days ago I had the honor of an invitation to join a hunting party, composed of a number of the nobility—a jolly set of fellows—to whom I had been introduced.

The affair was to come off on the estate of Count Popoffsky, which lies about thirty miles from here on the road to Moscow. My friend provided me with weapons of war, while our estimable and talented American dentist, Dr. De Marin, (who, by the way, has the honor to be, officially, the Dentist to the Emperor) provided hunting apparel. So armed and equipped, as a veritable sportsman, I reached the railway station, and met the gentleman who extended the invitation, looking more like a back woods-man than a nobleman.

His companions were two hounds, and were as fine specimens of the canine race as I ever met. The hour was late, to make our starting, but we were en route at 10:30 P.M. Some unforeseen causes prevented the attendance of our promised companions, so that our party had dwindled down to two.

If one could read the Russian language, I am confident there would be found such a motto as this:—"put off until to-morrow what should be done to-day." On reaching Popoff, where we left the train, we found, that as the telegram calling for horses had not been sent from St. Petersburg until late in the afternoon, it had not reached this point until 11:30, and as it was but just midnight a sufficient time had not elapsed for the messenger to reach Count Popoffsky's villa—distance 3 miles, and return, our only resource was to wait and wait, and wait we did, stamping up and down the platform, or in a cheerless room for one hour. It is not pleasant to stay out of doors at midnight in Russia even if one is clad in furs like a great bear.

At length our CARRIAGE arrived—and such a coach—four little wheels revolving round two logs of wood, and on these so-called axles, were bolted a sarcophagus—a wooden one—across the top of which a board was fastened, on which we were to sit. Into this vehicle we placed our dogs, provisions and ourselves.

It is unnecessary to explain to a Jerseyman the condition of a country road, in the Spring of the year, after a severe storm, followed by a sharp frost. Over such a road we had to pass, on a cold, dark night, in this box of a wagon, and the driver made free use of the whip, much to our disadvantage. The concussion upon our nether parts was fearful; we dare not speak lest if we opened our mouths, they might too suddenly close, to the risk of losing portions of our tongues. Our bodies described every imaginable angle and we were in constant anxiety for fear that on our next descent from such elevations as those to which we were mercilessly lifted, we might find that the wagon had passed from under us, and we should be seated on Mother Earth—such a mother—such a lap.

A kind Providence preserved us, and in time we reached the villa, where we expected to find a warm welcome from the retainers of the Count. But all was darkness; every one was asleep; a light in a room exhibited to us Russian life at bed time; ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, all in one bed, with their clothes on.

But something must be done. We could not tacitly consent to freeze by the roadside. While my noble friend held the horses, I assayed to enter the house by an open back door. Just as I was about to open a door leading from a dark hall into the afore-said room, I heard a noise—a movement as if some one was feeling for a blunderbuss. Discretion being the better part of valor, I beat a hasty retreat, to find myself sprawling on the slippery back piazza.

Finally, after a delay of twenty minutes, the overcast put in an appearance, and ushered us into the mansion, apologizing for the cold reception, not having received any notice whatever of our intended arrival. Soon the open fire place was ablaze, and the inevitable "Sommav" was trotted out. This "Sommav" is a copper vessel which contains boiling water, kept hot by means of lighted charcoal, placed in a vertical chimney in the centre of the vessel. It took some time to thaw us, but fire will do. When this was thoroughly accomplished, we laid ourselves upon sofas and slept till eight in the morning.

Our breakfast consisted of tea made as described above, some dry bread and Bologna sausages, and we were off for the hunt, accompanied by a huntsman. The snow lay upon the ground to the depth of about four inches, causing one, at each step, to raise his feet, after the manner of a horse, of spring-hall propensities. This motion, brought into violent action numerous muscles and tendons that had been in repose for nearly a half century. A constant and uninterrupted exercise like this, through swamp and thicket, for a space of seven hours, not only was commendable, but productive of very peculiar sensations in the vicinity of the hip-joint, making at length further propulsion a physical impossibility, without the aid of the two upper projecting members, by a firm grasp of pantaloons legs, and by which they and their occupants were lifted. To rest by sitting was impossible, and to stand still was at the risk of frozen feet.

Our game was hare, and I am happy to inform you that I shot one—that is I think I did—for after I fired I did not see the fellow again. The extraordinary yelping of the dogs, which continued for some time, becoming fainter and fainter, satisfied me that I did shoot it. If I did not, it was only because the hare was so slow, that when the shot came in contact with it, there was not sufficient momentum. Of one thing I am certain, I shot towards it, for which, certainly, great credit should be given.

Finally, I informed my companions that I must return to the chateau. They coolly replied that they must have one more hare, and so pointed the way and said "the horse is just in sight." After parting with them, the thought was presented to me, that I might not find the way and so would be obliged to enquire. But, alas! I knew not the name of the owner of the estate nor the name of the station. In fact all I could say in Russian was "starbany." After walking over a mile, in the direction pointed out, I really began to feel alarmed, as night was approaching. My good clothes were at the chateau, and any attempts at conversation were useless. The only course to pursue was to keep straight ahead and trust to a kind Providence. The wisdom of this soon developed itself by my arrival at the desired spot, after a walk of about another mile.

"I laid me down and slept," and such sweet repose!

At 4:15 my friend, who had arrived a few minutes before, announced that we had but fifteen minutes in which to reach the train, the actual time required being thirty-five minutes. Throwing our traps and ourselves into the cart, we were off at a full gallop, passing most of the time on the way in the air, and such suspense!

We arrived at the station cold, battered, bruised, hungry, dissipated and forlorn, to find that the train had been gone for twenty minutes, and that the next train would pass in two and a half hours!

Nothing daunted, plucky, submissive and resigned, we stretched our bodies on settees, and were soon oblivious to mortal sorrows and disappointments.

A second class carriage came to our relief, and we reached the Capital of all the Russias at just nine P.M.

THE RELIGIOUS WEEKLIES.

The "Illustrated Christian Weekly," which by the way is one of the best among all our Religious Weeklies, gives the following sensible answer to a correspondent who inquires whether it is allowable to introduce AMATEUR ACTING into church societies.

In our opinion the movement which W. T. describes is precisely in the wrong direction. Mr. Booth and Miss Cushman are vastly better actors than the amateurs of such an association. Their dramas are likely to be quite as high in moral and intellectual tone. Those that want a theatre will do better to go to it than to import it. Our readers know that we have no faith in a regenerated theatre; we certainly do not think it will be regenerated by parlor theatricals, under the auspices of a church. What we want in our churches is not merely sociability, but Christian sociability; that which comes in the play and interchange of the higher sentiments and feelings. We are to develop this by developing the higher sentiments and feelings, and giving them opportunities for expression. To introduce theatrical entertainments into the Christian gathering, is just the way to suppress the spiritual life, and its expression. The general principle is this: Whatever tends to lead those who attend from a lower to a higher plane of feeling, to one from which the transition to spiritual influences will be easier and simpler, is good and Christly; whatever tends in the other direction is not. It ought always to be relatively easier to introduce the subject of personal religion in any social meeting of the church than in any social gathering of the world.

The social meeting ought always to feed the prayer meeting, never to draw away from it.

The Methodist embodies, in an article admirable for its calmness and force, THE OBJECTIONS which the best people in all ages have felt to the theatre. We see not how they are to be met. After showing that the theatre at its best is only a diversion; that the pretence that it is a moral agent is hypocritical, and the claim that it is a school of art is based on a distorted view of art, it goes on to say:

"It is never an innocent diversion. Even were its morals and its moral influences as pure as its sincerest advocates would have them, it would still be open to the objection of propagating artistic delusions."

The moral stage exists only in the ideal. The actual stage is almost always immoral, in its influence and tendencies. If it is not always directly and flagrantly so. Really pure wholesome plays are in libraries, and a few of the best "moral plays" are acted, in which it is claimed that "virtue is rewarded and vice punished." Some plays have sentimental moralisms injected into them, which are sometimes quoted as entitling them to commendation. The "moral plays" have no force, because they are never true to the realities of nature; the moral axioms are without effect, because they are incongruous with the other incidents and the surroundings.

The plays, depended upon for support as pure, either by plot incidents or language, or by insinuation. The impurity is an essential condition of the business success of the establishment. The history of the drama is a constant illustration of the truth of this statement. The sublime and beautiful plays had plays on the stage, are a proof of it. We see them all too daily. "The theatre must be made to pay. These plays make it pay. You cannot expect us to produce high-toned plays before we can make money."

There is hardly a successful play in existence which has not in it something to make culture and virtue blush. The blemishes of the plays of Shakespeare and the old English dramatists are often spoken of as accidents, and attributed to the coarseness of the age in which the works were written. The excuse is false. These blemishes are different only in outward seeming, not in essence, from those which infect every "live" play of the present. The vulgarity of the Elizabethan stage was homelier, but not more impure than that which is catered to from the stage to-day; and plays now "run" by the year, to full houses, which would have shamed our coarser ancestors, Shakespeare's blemishes exist because the plays were made to be acted, and they were considered necessary to keep the pieces on the boards; and more refined, as well as more impure blemishes exist to-day for the same reason.

No one will deliberately assert that all actors are immoral.

But a dissolute life does not mar the professional standing or the popularity of an actor.

The lack of high-toned theatres and moral and instructive plays is often excused by the complaint that when they are produced the church will not patronize them; therefore entertainments of an inferior character must be given, adapted to the tastes of those who attend them. We do not see that this bears against the church, or that it has any force except to support the argument we have made. If the church and people of pure culture will not attend a theatre which has been shaped to suit the supposed views, it is plain that these classes do not want the theatre at all. If those who support the theatre will only be suited with something that has a doubtful flavor about it—why, that is just what we have tried to say.

THE MONTHLIES.

The Agriculturalist for January is before us. Full of good, useful and varied reading, adapted to the farmer, the gardener, the horticulturist, the florist, the zoologist, the housewife—the country home, the village residence, the parents, the young folks, the children. Price, \$1.00 per annum—245 Broadway, N. Y.

OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

"OPENING DAY" FOR 1875—NEW YORK DENT WINTER AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF IT—DECLINE OF NEW YEAR'S PARLOR BAR—THE BECHER RALLY—GREATEST PAIR SAYS TRY—THE GREAT TRIUMPH—PHOTOGRAPH NO. 1.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6, 1875.

NEW YEAR'S.

November, in New York, usually continues until the middle of the calendar winter; modified by transient slush and by exceptional days of severe weather. The Hudson is usually closed above the Highlands in December—but that is not New York, nor anything at all like it, in weather. Go back to the nearest hills—the last of the land to the general level of the sea-coast; say ten or twelve miles, to the so-called First Mountain, on whose spreading feet sit the favorite suburbs of Orange and Montclair, and you have altogether another climate, where the frost is practically earlier, because the temperature is so much steadier and the air so much clearer and drier. Here, on the contrary, the Boreal refrigerator does not usually over- come the saline humidity of the atmosphere, and the most wintry weather of the Ocean before the last of January.

Our transient snows are "slushed" by the salt air on the same principle as by the salt sprinkling machines on the horse railways, and with like effect, the fearful multiplying of diphtheria and other catarrhal affections.

A clear, cold New Year's day, therefore, was a luxury to New Yorkers; distinguishing the first of 1875 quite memorably among the slushy beginnings of many of their social, commercial and municipal years. For with us everything begins with the calendar year, except losses. Even the religious year has lately got its date